

# **APPENDIX IV**

## **TAB Y**

Alan Bonsell - \*\* Evolution Issue & Dover \*\*

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From: "Seth Cooper" <cooper@discovery.org>  
To: <abonse@dover.k12.pa.us>  
Date: Fri, Dec 10, 2004 4:15 PM  
Subject: \*\* Evolution Issue & Dover \*\*

Mr. Bonsell,

Hello, this is Seth Cooper, an attorney with the Discovery Institute-the nation's leading think tank promoting intelligent design theory. (www.discovery.org/csc). I hope to finally reach you sometime very soon.

While some of my senior colleagues were involved with the writing and editing of *Of Pandas and People* and of the new, forthcoming edition of the book, we have some serious concerns about matters in your district. We do believe a lawsuit is certain in your situation, and we would hope that this could be prevented. A lawsuit would last 2-3 years and result in massive legal fees.

Again, we are the nation's leading proponents of intelligent design and we house the nation's leading scientists involved in intelligent design research. So nobody is more concerned about the future of intelligent design than we are. Nonetheless, we strongly recommend some corrective action be taken.

I have forwarded a suggested course of action to Heather Geesey, which I include below. I would be more than glad to discuss the reasoning and thinking behind it.

#### BOARD MOTION

- 1) Omit curriculum provision requiring that students be made aware of "gaps/problems" with Darwin's theory.
- 2) Omit curriculum reference to intelligent design and *Of Pandas and People*
- 3) Omit curriculum provision stating "Origins of life will not be

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taught"

- 4) Place Of Pandas and People copies in school library
- 5) Rescind previous policy calling for teachers to read aloud a statement about "gaps/problems" with Darwin's theory, intelligent design, and Of Pandas and People
- 6) Enact a new policy reading as follows:

Teachers, in their discretion, may encourage students to consider both the scientific strengths and weaknesses of evolutionary theory in order to better understand the assigned curriculum. This policy does not call for teaching of creationism, nor does it call for the teaching of intelligent design theory.

Please feel free to contact me for further details. My office is the best number to reach me, but I can sometimes be reached via cell phone.

Best Regards,

-Seth

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Seth L. Cooper, J.D.

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